

MELINDA HAAG (CSBN 132612)  
United States Attorney  
JOANN M. SWANSON (CSBN 88143)  
Chief, Civil Division  
ANN MARIE REDING (CSBN 226864)  
Assistant United States Attorney

450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36055  
San Francisco, California 94102-3495  
Telephone: (415) 436-6813  
FAX: (415) 436-4378  
annie.reding@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Defendant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

DOUGLAS W. JAMES, JR.,

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (United  
States of the Interior-San Francisco  
Maritime National Historical Park),

Defendant.

No. C 11-2552 MEJ

**STIPULATION FOR COMPROMISE  
SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE;  
[PROPOSED] ORDER**

It is hereby stipulated by and between the undersigned Plaintiff Douglas W. James, Jr.  
("Plaintiff") and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by and through their respective  
attorneys, as follows:

WHEREAS, Plaintiff filed the above-captioned action on May 26, 2011 alleging that on  
April 28, 2010, he fell off of his bicycle while riding along the promenade in Aquatic Park,  
which is part of the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park.

WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Defendant wish to avoid any further litigation and controversy and  
to settle and compromise fully any and all claims and issues that have been raised, or could have  
been raised in this action, which have transpired prior to the execution of this Settlement  
Agreement ("Agreement").

1 NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained in this Agreement,  
 2 and other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties  
 3 agree as follows:

4 1. **Agreement to Compromise Claims.** The parties do hereby agree to settle and  
 5 compromise each and every claim of any kind, whether known or unknown, arising directly or  
 6 indirectly from the acts or omissions that gave rise to the above-captioned action under the terms  
 7 and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

8 2. **Definition of "United States of America."** As used in this Agreement, the United States  
 9 of America shall include its current and former agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, as  
 10 well as the Department of Interior, and/or its current and former agents, servants, employees, and  
 11 attorneys.

12 3. **Settlement Amount.** The United States of America agrees to pay the sum of fifty-five  
 13 thousand dollars (~~\$50,000~~ <sup>\$55,000</sup>) ("Settlement Amount"), which sum shall be in full settlement and  
 14 satisfaction of any and all claims, demands, rights, and causes of action of whatsoever kind and  
 15 nature, arising from, and by reason of any and all known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen  
 16 personal injuries, damage to property and the consequences thereof, resulting, and to result, from  
 17 the subject matter of this settlement, including any claims for wrongful death, for which Plaintiff  
 18 or his guardians, heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, and each of them, now have or may  
 19 hereafter acquire against the United States of America.

20 4. **Release.** Plaintiff and his guardians, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns hereby  
 21 agrees to accept the Settlement Amount in full settlement and satisfaction of any and all claims,  
 22 demands, rights, and causes of action of whatsoever kind and nature, including claims for  
 23 wrongful death, arising from, and by reason of any and all known and unknown, foreseen and  
 24 unforeseen personal injuries, damage to property and the consequences thereof which they may  
 25 have or hereafter acquire against the United States of America on account of the same subject  
 26 matter that gave rise to the above-captioned action, including any future claim or lawsuit of any  
 27 kind or type whatsoever, whether known or unknown, and whether for compensatory or  
 28 exemplary damages. Plaintiff and his guardians, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns

AR  
 Rey  


1 further agrees to reimburse, indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America from and  
2 against any and all such causes of action, claims, liens, rights, or subrogated or contribution  
3 interests incident to or resulting from further litigation or the prosecution of claims by Plaintiff or  
4 his guardians, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns against any third party or against the  
5 United States, including claims for wrongful death.

6 5. **Dismissal of Action**. In consideration of the payment of the Settlement Amount and the  
7 other terms of this Agreement, Plaintiff shall immediately upon execution of this Agreement  
8 also execute a Stipulation of Dismissal, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The  
9 Stipulation of Dismissal shall dismiss, with prejudice, all claims asserted in this action, or that  
10 could have been asserted in this action. The fully executed Stipulation of Dismissal will be held  
11 by Defendant's attorney and will be filed within five (5) business days of receipt by Plaintiff's  
12 attorney of the Settlement Amount.

13 6. **No Admission of Liability**. This stipulation for compromise settlement is not intended to  
14 be, and should not be construed as, an admission of liability or fault on the part of the United  
15 States, and it is specifically denied that it is liable to the Plaintiff. This settlement is entered into  
16 by all parties for the purpose of compromising disputed claims and avoiding the expenses and  
17 risks of further litigation.

18 7. **Parties Bear Their Own Costs**. It is also agreed, by and among the parties, that the  
19 respective parties will each bear their own costs, fees, and expenses and that any attorney's fees  
20 owed by the Plaintiff will be paid out of the Settlement Amount and not in addition thereto.

21 8. **Attorney's Fees**. It is also understood by and among the parties that pursuant to Title 28,  
22 United States Code, Section 2678, attorney's fees for services rendered in connection with this  
23 action shall not exceed 25 per centum of the amount of the compromise settlement.


24 9. **Authority**. The persons signing this Agreement warrant and represent that they possess  
25 full authority to bind the persons on whose behalf they are signing to the terms of the settlement.

26 10. **Waiver of California Civil Code § 1542**. The provisions of California Civil Code  
27 Section 1542 are set forth below:

28 "A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or

1 suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if  
2 known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the  
debtor."

3 Plaintiff having been apprized of the statutory language of Civil Code Section 1542 by her  
4 attorney, and fully understanding the same, nevertheless elects to waive the benefits of any and  
5 all rights he may have pursuant to the provision of that statute and any similar provision of  
6 federal law. Plaintiff understands that, if the facts concerning Plaintiff's injury and the liability  
7 of the government for damages pertaining thereto are found hereinafter to be other than or  
8 different from the facts now believed by them to be true, the Agreement shall be and remain  
9 effective notwithstanding such material difference.

10 11. **Payment by Check.** Payment of the Settlement Amount will be made by check drawn  
11 on the Treasury of the United States for fifty <sup>-five</sup> thousand dollars (<sup>55,000 AR</sup> ~~\$50,000~~) and made payable to   
12 <sup>AR</sup> ~~Douglas W. James, Jr., Plaintiff, and Rey Hassan, Plaintiff's attorney.~~ Rey Hassan Law Firm. The check will be mailed  
13 to Plaintiff's attorney at the following address: Hassan law Firm, 1801 Bush Street, #213, San  
14 Francisco, California 94109. Plaintiff's attorney agrees to distribute the settlement proceeds to  
15 the Plaintiff. Plaintiff and his attorney have been informed that payment of the Settlement  
16 Amount may take sixty (60) days or more from the date that the Court "so orders" this  
17 Agreement to process.

18 11. **Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer.** Payment of the settlement amount shall be  
19 deposited by electronic fund transfer to the bank account Plaintiff shall designate in an Electronic  
20 Funds Transfer enrollment form the Plaintiff will provide to the undersigned Assistant United  
21 States Attorney within five days of executing this Agreement. Plaintiff's attorney agrees to  
22 distribute the settlement proceeds to the Plaintiff. Plaintiff and his attorney have been informed  
23 that payment of the Settlement Amount may take sixty (60) days or more from the date that the  
24 Court "so orders" this Agreement to process.

25 12. **Tax Liability.** If any withholding or income tax liability is imposed upon Plaintiff or  
26 Plaintiff's counsel based on payment of the Settlement Amount, Plaintiff or Plaintiff's counsel  
27 shall be solely responsible for paying any such determined liability from any government agency.  
28 Nothing in this Agreement constitutes an agreement by the United States of America concerning



1 the characterization of the Settlement Amount for the purposes of the Internal Revenue Code,  
2 Title 26 of the United States Code.

3 13. **Construction.** Each party hereby stipulates that it has been represented by and has relied  
4 upon independent counsel in the negotiations for the preparation of this Agreement, that it has  
5 had the contents of the Agreement fully explained to it by such counsel, and is fully aware of and  
6 understands all of the terms of the Agreement and the legal consequences thereof. For purposes  
7 of construction, this Agreement shall be deemed to have been drafted by all Parties to this  
8 Agreement and shall not, therefore, be construed against any Party for that reason in any  
9 subsequent dispute.

10 14. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid, illegal, or  
11 unenforceable, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining provision shall not in  
12 any way be affected or impaired thereby.

13 ///

14 ///

15 ///

16 ///

17 ///

18 ///

19 ///

20 ///

21 ///

22 ///

23 ///

24 ///

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

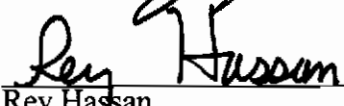
28 ///

1       15. **Integration.** This instrument shall constitute the entire Agreement between the parties,  
2 and it is expressly understood and agreed that the Agreement has been freely and voluntarily  
3 entered into by the parties hereto with the advice of counsel, who have explained the legal effect  
4 of this Agreement. The parties further acknowledge that no warranties or representations have  
5 been made on any subject other than as set forth in this Agreement. This Agreement may not be  
6 altered, modified or otherwise changed in any respect except by writing, duly executed by all of  
7 the parties or their authorized representatives.

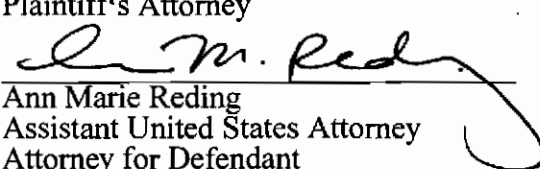
8  
9 DATED: March 26, 2012

  
Plaintiff Douglas W. James, Jr.

10  
11 DATED: March 26, 2012

  
Rey Hassan  
Plaintiff's Attorney

12  
13 DATED: March 26, 2012

  
Ann Marie Reding  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Attorney for Defendant

14  
15 PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.

16  
17 Dated: March 30, 2012

  
HON. MARIA-ELLEN JAMES  
United States Chief Magistrate Judge